

Mary was dedicated to her family and dearly loved by all who knew her. She is survived by her three children and six grandchildren. My prayers are with her loved ones during this difficult time.

REANNA MENDEZ

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Reanna Mendez for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Reanna Mendez is a student at Arvada West H.S. and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Reanna Mendez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Reanna Mendez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING BENNETT J. THOMAS

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Bennett J. Thomas. Bennett is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 180, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Bennett has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Bennett has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Bennett J. Thomas for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING DREW BREES'S RETIREMENT FROM THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

### HON. STEVE SCALISE

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Drew Brees, his legacy as a New Orleans Saint in the National Football League, and his dedication to the people of the City of

New Orleans. Drew's retirement comes after completing twenty seasons in the NFL, fifteen of which were played as the starting quarterback of my hometown team, the New Orleans Saints. In fact, he chose to retire on March 14, 2021, the fifteen-year anniversary of his signing with the Saints.

Since 2005, Drew has taken the field dressed in black and gold and sparked the greatest era yet for the Saints franchise. For the last fifteen years, Brees has led one of the most explosive offensive teams in NFL history, marching the Saints to seven NFC South titles and winning the franchise's first-ever Super Bowl in 2010. You can take a guess who the MVP was for Super Bowl XLIV.

I could go on and on about how Drew Brees is one of the best football players of all time. How he is the NFL all-time leader in career passing yards, passes completed, passes completed per game, and total offensive yards. Or that he has the most seasons with 5,000+ passing yards, has been selected for 13 Pro Bowls, or that he has showcased his accuracy by holding the all-time single season record for his passing completion percentage at 74.4 percent. These achievements are unparalleled. In addition to Drew's accomplishments on the field, I also want to recognize and honor the positive impact Drew Brees has made on New Orleans and the entire State of Louisiana.

Drew came to New Orleans during one of our darkest times. Hurricane Katrina had taken over 1,800 lives and flooded the vibrant, historic crown jewel of the South. The iconic Louisiana Superdome, home to the Saints and regularly filled with cheering fans on Sundays, was filled with many of those same people who were now evacuees, some of whom had lost everything they owned.

The Saints are more than just a football team in New Orleans. After Katrina, the Saints gave us hope. The Saints are as much a part of the soul of New Orleans as our world-famous cuisine and the jazz music and brass bands that fill the French Quarter. Drew Brees changed our New Orleans Saints forever, bringing historic success to the franchise and giving the city hope, with something to finally celebrate through the grueling struggles of rebuilding. As the Saints organization put it, Drew came to us at our lowest point, and brought us to its highest.

A known leader in the locker room, Drew is also a leader off the field. Winner of the NFL's Walter Payton Man of the Year award, Drew and his wife Brittany founded the Brees Dream Foundation, which has contributed more than \$45 million globally to cancer patients and families in need. In the last year, the Brees family personally committed \$5 million to Louisiana to assist with COVID-19 relief efforts.

To close, I'd like to read Brees' own inspirational words from his retirement letter, addressed openly to the city and to the famed Who Oat Nation. "From the moment I stepped foot into the city of New Orleans, I could feel your spirit. You told me that if I loved New Orleans, you would love me back. No truer words have ever been spoken. "Drew, I wholeheartedly agree, and your place in the history of the city will live forever. Jennifer and I wish you, Brittany, and your beautiful young kids all the best as you now begin the next chapter of your Hall of Fame life.

IN RECOGNITION OF MAYOR OF NIAGARA, GEORGE BOUSLEY'S, DISTINGUISHED CAREER

### HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, today I rise in honor of the career and service of retiring City of Niagara Mayor, George Bousley.

Mayor Bousley has had a long and esteemed career in public service. He was first elected as the Mayor of Niagara in 1989 and held the position for 32 consecutive years. He also served 12 years on the Marinette County Board, with 8 years as the County Board Chair.

Throughout his service to Niagara and Marinette County, Mayor Bousley lead and contributed to countless projects and initiatives that will surely benefit Northeast Wisconsin for years to come. Colleagues of Mayor Bousley have praised him for his humility, dedication, open mindedness, and hard work, all of which will be missed as his tenure as Mayor of Niagara comes to an end.

Mayor Bousley has accomplished much during his time in public service, and truly personifies the generous spirit that Northeast Wisconsin is known for. From his work on the U.S. 141 project, to Niagara's Centennial Celebration, Mayor Bousley worked tirelessly for his community.

Mayor George Bousley will certainly be missed by the people of Niagara, and I commend him for his dedication to his community. Madam Speaker, I urge all members of this body to join me in applauding Mayor Bousley for his service.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR THE LIFE OF  
CLAIRE CULLEN EARLEY

### HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Claire Cullen Earley, a San Carlos, California resident, who died on March 28, 2021, Palm Sunday, at the age of 85.

Claire Cullen was born on May 29, 1935, in Larchmont, New York, to Colonel William Joseph Cullen and Alice Cunningham Cullen. She was raised in Larchmont and Manhattan and earned a degree in Mathematics from Rosemont College. She worked as a computer programmer at Union Carbide in New York City where she met and later married Martin Vincent Earley. In 1971 they moved to San Carlos, where she began her lifelong commitment to her community.

Claire Earley was the former President of the San Mateo County Association of Realtors, Director of the California Association of Realtors, a member of St. Charles Church in San Carlos and the San Carlos Rotary Club.

She was predeceased by her husband Martin and her parents. She leaves her four beloved sons and their wives, and 11 adored grandchildren. She will be sorely missed by each of them as well as the many people who were blessed by her loyalty and generosity. I was blessed with her friendship for almost five decades.